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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/589,049	06/06/2000	William James Dhimitri	30566.99US11	9635

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EXAMINER

GOOD JOHNSON, MOTILEWA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2672

DATE MAILED: 07/02/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/589,049

Applicant(s)

DHIMITRI ET AL.

Examiner

Motilewa A. Good-Johnson

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 May 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____. 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is responsive to the following communications: Application, filed on 06/06/2000; IDS, paper #2, filed on 07/21/2000; Amendment B, filed 04/14/2003.
2. Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 7 and 13 are independent claims. Claims 1, 7 and 13 have been amended.
3. The present title of the application is "Dynamic Positioning and Alignment Aids for Shape Objects" (as originally filed).

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

4. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 05/12/2003 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite in that it fails to point out what is included or excluded by the claim language. This claim is an omnibus type claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Arsenault et al., U.S. Patent Number 5,894,310, "Intelligent Shapes for Authoring Three-Dimensional Models", class 345/619, 04/13/1999.

As per independent claim 1, a method of display information . . . comprising: displaying a first object . . . ; displaying a second object on the monitor; positioning the first object proximate to the second object . . . ; changing an appearance of plugs by displaying plugs on the first object . . . plugs indicate one or more respective attachment points . . . ; dynamically creating a socket on the second object . . . socket indicates an attachment point between the first object and the second object; and automatically coupling the second object to the first object at the attachment point. Arsenault discloses modeling shapes and solids with intelligence and that intelligent shape modeling may include parameters specifying how the shape is to interact with other

shapes, how the snap into place with other shapes and maintaining a certain distance with other shapes, col. 3. Arsenault further discloses a plug and socket configuration for the bus. Arsenault also discloses a snap in and interlock capability, col. 4. and that components, such as reference geometry components that define secondary attachment point for attaching shapes together, col. 11, lines 20-67, can be added or removed between run time and are added at any time and that they can be shared between shapes, i.e. objects, col. 6, lines 34-50.

With respect to dependent claim 2, an appearance of the displayed second object on the monitor is modified when a type of the plug on the first object does not match . . . Arsenault discloses functions for variable context change notification and further discloses callbacks and the actual communications may include interface definitions such as detach context, col. 16, lines 4-46.

With respect to dependent claim 3, automatically coupling further comprises the step of positioning the first object to align the plug of the first object to the created socket of the second object. Arsenault discloses a snap in capability and allowing a shape to interlock with another shape automatically, col. 4, lines 1-26. Arsenault further discloses the shapes contain attachment points that know how to glue to one another, col. 6, lines 1-2.

With respect to dependent claim 4, automatically coupling further comprises the step of automatically coupling the attachment point of the second object to the first object along a defined range . . . Arsenault discloses a disk to snap onto the end of a cylinder when the disk is dragged into proximity with the cylinder, col. 9, lines 63-67.

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With respect to dependent claim 5, deleting the created socket when the plug of the first object is no longer proximate to the second object. . . Arsenault discloses shape data structure which implements API function calls and further discloses a remove component and remove all components function call, col. 14, lines 36-67 to col. 15, lines 1-27.

With respect to dependent claim 6, deleting the created socket when no plugs are attached to the created socket. . . Arsenault discloses shape data structure which implements API function calls and further discloses a remove component and remove all components function call, col. 14, lines 36-67 to col. 15, lines 1-27.

As per independent claims 7 and 13 and dependent claims 8-12 and 4-18, they are rejected based upon similar rational as above independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2-6 respectively.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Motilewa A. Good-Johnson whose telephone number is

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(703) 305-3939. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mike Razavi can be reached on (703) 305-4713. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



Motilewa A. Good-Johnson
Examiner
Art Unit 2672

mgj
June 27, 2003